

What is claimed is:

1. A method of operating an internal market, comprising:
automatically representing an order in the internal market and an external market, and
automatically ensuring the order is executable in at most one of the internal market and
the external market.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically synchronizing operation
of the internal market and the external market.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein automatically synchronizing includes reflecting a
transaction in both of the internal market and the external market, the transaction being a cancel
operation or a post operation.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein automatically synchronizing includes reflecting
an execute operation in one of the internal and external markets as a cancel operation in the other
of the internal and external markets.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising conditionally performing an operation
in one of the internal and external markets, and committing the conditional operation after
receiving confirmation from the other of the internal and external markets.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a mechanism for coupling
the internal and external markets.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein when one of the internal and external markets is
in fast symbol mode, the other of the internal and external markets operates as a router for the
fast symbol market.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein an order can be executed at only the fast symbol
market.
9. The method of claim 6, further comprising resynchronizing the internal and
external markets before decoupling the internal and external markets.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically ensuring uses a platform
process that communicates between the internal market and the external market.
11. A method of synchronizing an internal market and an external market,
comprising:
automatically receiving an action from one of the internal and external markets,

automatically transmitting the action to the other of the internal and external markets, and when a response has not been received within a predetermined time, automatically sending a zero action to the one of the internal and external markets.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising receiving a response after the predetermined time and sending a negative acknowledgement to the other of the internal and external markets.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising converting the received action to a converted action, and wherein the automatically transmitting transmits the converted action.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the received action is an execute operation and the converted action is a cancel operation.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the automatically receiving and transmitting are performed by a platform process.

16. A method of operating a market, comprising:
automatically attempting performance of an action received from another market, and
automatically committing the action after ensuring availability of resources for the action.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein ensuring availability includes determining that the other market is in fast symbol mode.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein ensuring availability includes receiving an action acknowledgement from the other market.

19. The method of claim 16, wherein the action is a cancel operation indicating a particular order and further comprising canceling only a portion of the order that is not in process.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein the automatically attempting and committing are performed by a market process.

21. A method of operating an internal market, comprising:
automatically attempting performance of an action received from a local trading process,
and
automatically committing the action after ensuring that the action is reflected in an external market.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the internal and external markets follow a two phase protocol for committing actions.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the automatically attempting and committing are performed by a market process.

24. A method of synchronizing two markets, comprising:
transmitting an order file from one of the markets that has been dominant to the other of the markets that has been slaved, and
updating the order file to reflect activity that occurred while the order file was being transmitted from the formerly dominant market to the formerly slaved market.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising receiving an indication from the dominant market that it will resume a two phase protocol for actions.

26. The method of claim 24, wherein after the order file is transmitted, both markets operate according to a two phase protocol for actions.

27. The method of claim 24, wherein one of the markets is a market process.